



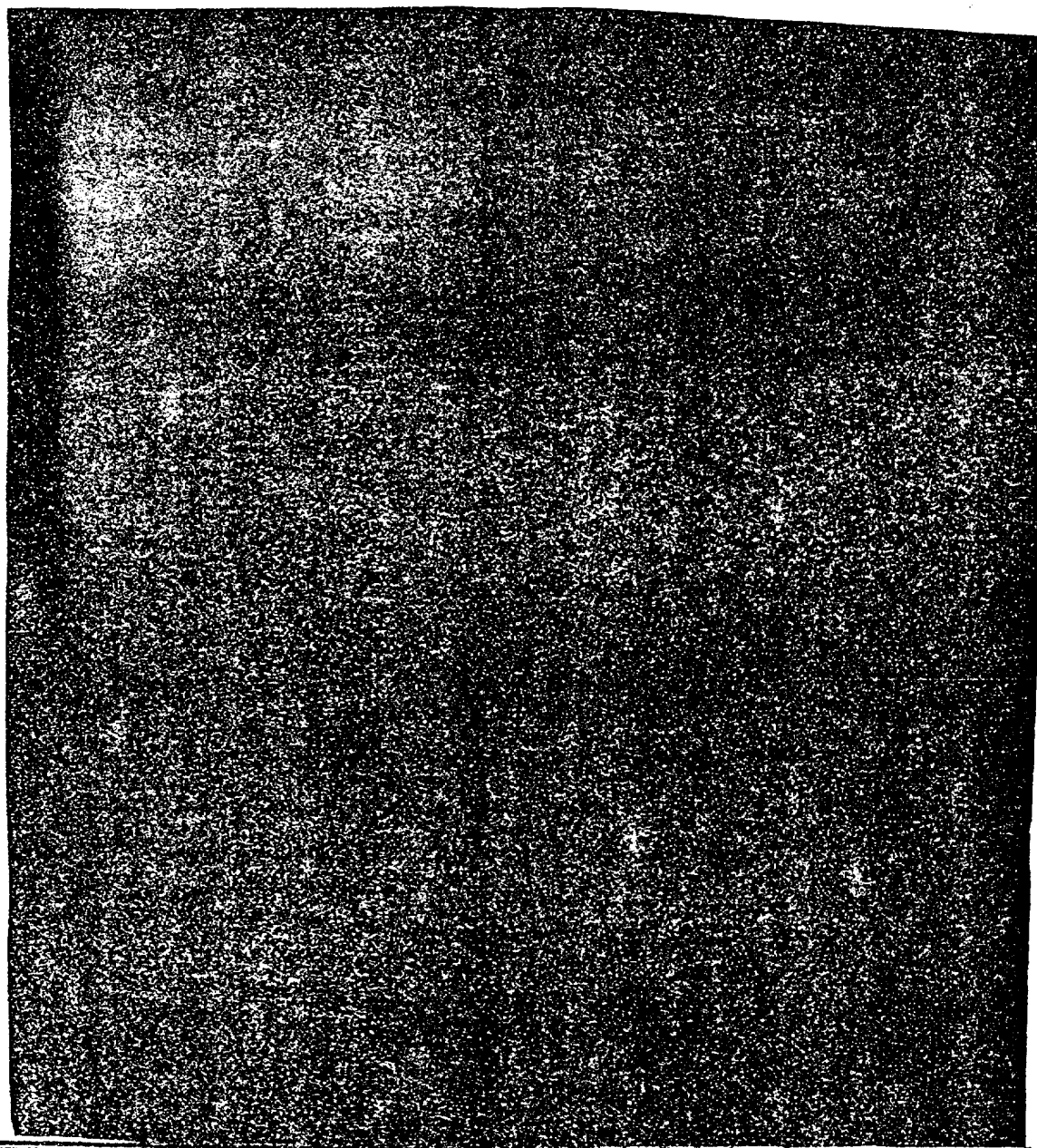
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

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## SPOT COMMENTARY

18 February 1991  
1500 EST

IRAQ-KUWAIT: SITUATION REPORT #582



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Approved for Release  
Date

OCT 3 1997

Pages: 2

Exemptions: (b)(1) (b)(3)

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## Political Developments

### Soviet Peace Plan

Soviet President Gorbachev presented a peace plan to Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Hammadi and Foreign Minister Aziz earlier today, according to press. Although a Soviet Presidential spokesman declined to provide details of the plan, a German press agency, citing "well informed Moscow sources," claimed it consists of:

- o Unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.
- o Preservation of Iraqi territorial integrity.
- o Guarantees against further punitive measures.
- o Negotiations on other regional problems, such as the Palestinian issue.

Aziz immediately left for Baghdad via Tehran and will present the proposal to the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council tomorrow. The Soviet spokesman called Aziz's reaction "very constructive" and said the Soviets would brief members of the anti-Iraq coalition, plus Iran, on the peace plan.

Comment: Moscow is likely to lobby members of the coalition to show flexibility in an effort to gain Iraqi approval of the peace plan. The Soviets will probably look for some goodwill gesture--such as a temporary cease-fire of allied bombing--and might ask for a delay in a ground war. Moscow will also continue to warn Saddam that Iraq faces imminent destruction should he refuse the negotiated settlement.

### Baghdad Uses New Name for Scud

Baghdad claimed its attacks on Israel on 16 February used "Hijrat al-Sijjil" missiles, according to Iraqi press today. The name means "shalestone" and refers to a Koranic passage in which Allah sends giant birds to drop shalestones on invaders attacking the Kaaba, Islam's holiest shrine.

Comment: The name Hijrat al-Sijjil has been used by Baghdad in the past to refer to at least two different types of surface-to-surface missiles. The name most likely is of propaganda significance only--either as an exploitation of Islamic themes or as an Iraqi attempt to identify with the rock-throwing Palestinians of Israel's intifada. It almost certainly does not denote a new missile; both Scuds launched on 16 February probably were the Al Abbas variant developed by Baghdad.

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